

PROBLEMS FOR "SUN" READERS TO SOLVE

Positions at Bridge Afford Practical Lessons for Players.

TRICKS WITH DOMINOES

H. D. Lyman's Checker End Game Furnishes Another Puzzle for Experts.

Bridge problem No. 252 is a good example of the importance of unblocking the partner's suit, and the preparation for a tenace position which will be available later in the play of the hand. Here is the distribution:

Hand distribution for Bridge problem No. 252. Includes cards for North, South, West, and East, and a list of tricks.

Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want all six tricks against any defense.

The solution is for Z to lead the heart, bringing down ace and jack, and establishing the remaining heart in his own hand. Y trumps the trick with the jack, so as to make both Z's trumps good for tricks over H.

Y leads the small trump, and whatever H plays Z wins. When Z leads the last trump to pick up the others, Y has an opportunity to get out of his partner's way by discarding the queen of spades. With his card out of his way, Y can make two spade tricks and his established heart. This play shuts out the best heart, the top diamond and the second best trump in the hands of the opponents.

While this position should present no difficulties to the expert problem solver, it is in just such situations that even the best of players will continually slip up and lose tricks at the card table. As for the beginner, nothing is more common than for him to block himself, or to fail to provide for a lead through a tenace at the right time.

Here is another instructive position, illustrating a play that wins or loses tricks according to the good or bad management of the situation. It is not as easy of solution as No. 252, because the adversaries are allowed one trick.

BRIDGE PROBLEM NO. 254.

Hand distribution for Bridge problem No. 254. Includes cards for North, South, West, and East, and a list of tricks.

Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want five of these six tricks against any defense.

The distribution of the cards is as follows: Y has the ace jack three of hearts; jack and four of trumps; eight of spades; no diamonds.

A has the eight and deuce of trumps; nine of diamonds; queen ten five of spades; no hearts.

Z has the ten and four of hearts; jack ten of diamonds and seven of spades; no clubs.

CHECKER ENDINGS. After the members of THE SUN Checker Club had been informed definitely that No. 278 was a win for white they had two more weeks to analyze it, or four in all, but only three got it. These were John Daly, P. H. Joyce and John Ryan.

In connection with his notes upon the errors made in the various attempts at a solution submitted by the aspirants for the honor list H. D. Lyman, the composer, says:

"Number 278 was in as a problem, definitely stated as 'white to play and win.' Any player having the analytical ability to solve it should be able to do it at one sitting and certainly within two weeks.

"Any problem with the assertion of positive terms, 'to win,' is a challenge to all players by the author to show him wrong. In composing the author is studying hard not only to puzzle the solver, but to be accurate. He is, thus, in imagination, while composing playing against a large number of opponents, and that is what stimulates him to extra exertions to produce something that players will regard as worth while."

When this problem, No. 278, was first given solvers were asked for their opinions: was it a win or a draw for Mr. Lyman against 'Champion Willie'? In answer to this John Daly of Fall River was the only player to claim a distinct win and prove it. It was then given to every one as a win for white, but only two others could show it. Here is the distribution:

Hand distribution for Checker problem No. 278. Includes pieces for White and Black, and a list of moves.

Table with 4 columns and 10 rows of numbers, likely a domino or checkerboard layout.

Black to play and draw.

The distribution of the pieces is as follows: Black men on 2, 6, 9, 10, 12 and 13; king on 29. White men on 13, 17, 26, 27, 28 and 30; king on 3.

H. D. Lyman was a good example of a simple position which might easily be lost, although there is a draw for white in three moves. The distribution of the pieces is: Black men on 4 and 10; king on 23. White men on 18; king on 12 and 16. White to play and draw. The moves are:

White: 18-16, 16-14, 14-12, 12-10, 10-8, 8-6, 6-4, 4-2, 2-1, 1-3, 3-5, 5-7, 7-9, 9-11, 11-13, 13-15, 15-17, 17-19, 19-21, 21-23, 23-25, 25-27, 27-29, 29-31, 31-33, 33-35, 35-37, 37-39, 39-41, 41-43, 43-45, 45-47, 47-49, 49-51, 51-53, 53-55, 55-57, 57-59, 59-61, 61-63, 63-65, 65-67, 67-69, 69-71, 71-73, 73-75, 75-77, 77-79, 79-81, 81-83, 83-85, 85-87, 87-89, 89-91, 91-93, 93-95, 95-97, 97-99, 99-101, 101-103, 103-105, 105-107, 107-109, 109-111, 111-113, 113-115, 115-117, 117-119, 119-121, 121-123, 123-125, 125-127, 127-129, 129-131, 131-133, 133-135, 135-137, 137-139, 139-141, 141-143, 143-145, 145-147, 147-149, 149-151, 151-153, 153-155, 155-157, 157-159, 159-161, 161-163, 163-165, 165-167, 167-169, 169-171, 171-173, 173-175, 175-177, 177-179, 179-181, 181-183, 183-185, 185-187, 187-189, 189-191, 191-193, 193-195, 195-197, 197-199, 199-201, 201-203, 203-205, 205-207, 207-209, 209-211, 211-213, 213-215, 215-217, 217-219, 219-221, 221-223, 223-225, 225-227, 227-229, 229-231, 231-233, 233-235, 235-237, 237-239, 239-241, 241-243, 243-245, 245-247, 247-249, 249-251, 251-253, 253-255, 255-257, 257-259, 259-261, 261-263, 263-265, 265-267, 267-269, 269-271, 271-273, 273-275, 275-277, 277-279, 279-281, 281-283, 283-285, 285-287, 287-289, 289-291, 291-293, 293-295, 295-297, 297-299, 299-301, 301-303, 303-305, 305-307, 307-309, 309-311, 311-313, 313-315, 315-317, 317-319, 319-321, 321-323, 323-325, 325-327, 327-329, 329-331, 331-333, 333-335, 335-337, 337-339, 339-341, 341-343, 343-345, 345-347, 347-349, 349-351, 351-353, 353-355, 355-357, 357-359, 359-361, 361-363, 363-365, 365-367, 367-369, 369-371, 371-373, 373-375, 375-377, 377-379, 379-381, 381-383, 383-385, 385-387, 387-389, 389-391, 391-393, 393-395, 395-397, 397-399, 399-401, 401-403, 403-405, 405-407, 407-409, 409-411, 411-413, 413-415, 415-417, 417-419, 419-421, 421-423, 423-425, 425-427, 427-429, 429-431, 431-433, 433-435, 435-437, 437-439, 439-441, 441-443, 443-445, 445-447, 447-449, 449-451, 451-453, 453-455, 455-457, 457-459, 459-461, 461-463, 463-465, 465-467, 467-469, 469-471, 471-473, 473-475, 475-477, 477-479, 479-481, 481-483, 483-485, 485-487, 487-489, 489-491, 491-493, 493-495, 495-497, 497-499, 499-501, 501-503, 503-505, 505-507, 507-509, 509-511, 511-513, 513-515, 515-517, 517-519, 519-521, 521-523, 523-525, 525-527, 527-529, 529-531, 531-533, 533-535, 535-537, 537-539, 539-541, 541-543, 543-545, 545-547, 547-549, 549-551, 551-553, 553-555, 555-557, 557-559, 559-561, 561-563, 563-565, 565-567, 567-569, 569-571, 571-573, 573-575, 575-577, 577-579, 579-581, 581-583, 583-585, 585-587, 587-589, 589-591, 591-593, 593-595, 595-597, 597-599, 599-601, 601-603, 603-605, 605-607, 607-609, 609-611, 611-613, 613-615, 615-617, 617-619, 619-621, 621-623, 623-625, 625-627, 627-629, 629-631, 631-633, 633-635, 635-637, 637-639, 639-641, 641-643, 643-645, 645-647, 647-649, 649-651, 651-653, 653-655, 655-657, 657-659, 659-661, 661-663, 663-665, 665-667, 667-669, 669-671, 671-673, 673-675, 675-677, 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899-901, 901-903, 903-905, 905-907, 907-909, 909-911, 911-913, 913-915, 915-917, 917-919, 919-921, 921-923, 923-925, 925-927, 927-929, 929-931, 931-933, 933-935, 935-937, 937-939, 939-941, 941-943, 943-945, 945-947, 947-949, 949-951, 951-953, 953-955, 955-957, 957-959, 959-961, 961-963, 963-965, 965-967, 967-969, 969-971, 971-973, 973-975, 975-977, 977-979, 979-981, 981-983, 983-985, 985-987, 987-989, 989-991, 991-993, 993-995, 995-997, 997-999, 999-1001, 1001-1003, 1003-1005, 1005-1007, 1007-1009, 1009-1011, 1011-1013, 1013-1015, 1015-1017, 1017-1019, 1019-1021, 1021-1023, 1023-1025, 1025-1027, 1027-1029, 1029-1031, 1031-1033, 1033-1035, 1035-1037, 1037-1039, 1039-1041, 1041-1043, 1043-1045, 1045-1047, 1047-1049, 1049-1051, 1051-1053, 1053-1055, 1055-1057, 1057-1059, 1059-1061, 1061-1063, 1063-1065, 1065-1067, 1067-1069, 1069-1071, 1071-1073, 1073-1075, 1075-1077, 1077-1079, 1079-1081, 1081-1083, 1083-1085, 1085-1087, 1087-1089, 1089-1091, 1091-1093, 1093-1095, 1095-1097, 1097-1099, 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